(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, by when the report is likely to be submitted by the Committee and the reasons for the delay?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) A Committee under Chairmanship of Shri S.R. Satyam was appointed to review working of ESI Hospitals and general quality of services offered by them to the ESI beneficiaries. The Committee submitted its report on 14/1/1999.

(d) Does not arise.

Relaxation of the Provident Fund Rules

3725. SHRI SOLIPETA RAMACHANDRA REDDY: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal under Government's consideration for relaxation of the Provident Fund Rules for the employees of the drought, famine, floods and cyclone hit areas in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the steps being taken so far, thereon; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL): (a) and (b) Paragraph 68-L of the Employees' Provident Funds Scheme, 1952 already provides for grant of non-refundable advances to the EPF subscribers whose

property is damaged by a calamity of exceptional nature such as floods, earthquakes or riots.

(c) Does not arise.

Employment Exchanges in Assam

3726. SHRI PRAKANTA WARISA: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the number of employment exchanges functioning at present in Assam, district-wise, location-wise; and

(b) the details of the unemployed youths indicating their trade registered with each exchange during the last five years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL): (a) The total number of employment exchanges presently functioning in the State of Assam is 53. A statement showing the location of Employment Exchanges in Assam is annexed. (*See* below).

(b) The number of job-seekers on the live register of employment exchanges in Assam, all of whom are not necessarily unemployed, at the end of each year during the period 1996 — 2000 were as indicated below:—

As on	*No. in lakhs*
31.12.1996	12.96
31.12.1997	14.75
31.12.1998	14.89
31.12.1999	14.90
31.12.2000	14.42

Trade-wise details are not maintained.